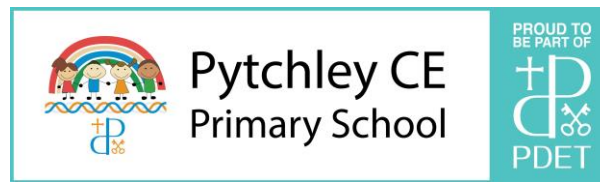


Issue 4 - W/E 8th March 2024



Pytchley CoFE Fortnightly News

“And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.” Matthew 6:16-18

Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week has been **'buzzing.'** It is great when that happens and is certainly why I got into teaching. The week has been filled with: assessments, music lessons, school decoration, new library furniture, football skills, playground activities, after school clubs and not forgetting World Book Day. Surely, a week like this is why we all enjoy school? A huge well done and thank you to the pupils and staff. As well as all of these activities, the children have been taught and have welcomed many guests.

One guest in particular was Mr Meekings. On Wednesday he spent a day in school to monitor all things RE/Worship etc. He had a great day and was so complimentary about everyone. During the day he met Governors, parents, staff and pupils. He loved meeting a group of Y1/2 pupils whom gave great feedback whilst showing super enthusiasm. Thank you to Governors and parents who gave up their time to meet with him also. All of the feedback has now been digested and an action plan written that will allow further improvements. During this year, we will hold a **SIAMS** inspection during which time, inspectors, will focus upon worship, RE, behaviour and all things related. Wednesday was a good start on this journey to ensure that Pytchley is a good Church school.

I must say another thank you to parents and children who donated a book to our new library via the Amazon Wishlist. You will be able to read more in the news also. I look forward to welcoming you all into school at some point to enjoy the new decoration, library and spiritual garden. Watch this space.

I enjoyed watching from afar as children enjoyed a football skills session this week. For those of you that follow our Twitter (X) and Instagram feeds, you will have seen the skills sessions. I have again, included links to Ash's YouTube videos so you and your children can be amazed once again. As I have mentioned below, I look forward to providing a new activity each term during which the children can try something new. I am hoping for some dance sessions next.

Check out the lovely pictures below (Taken when we had sunshine). I am hoping to have the same pictures blown up onto canvasses to show off around the school also. The children look so happy

don't they? Finally, the news includes lots of links and information that will help you and your child's learning at home. Please do use them as they are there for you!

PS - at the time of writing I

Please share the news with your children and friends and family.

Enjoy the weekend, see you soon.

Mr Scott

Welcome



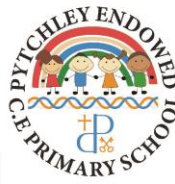




Places Available - Spread the word!

Pytchley CofE is a lovely village school and we need to promote that fact. At the moment, we are able to offer places in most years with children being able to start ASAP. Word of Mouth from you all is so important. Our information shared via Twitter and Instagram for example is also important. Please Share the information contained in the flyer below with anyone whom you can think of have children looking for primary school places or maybe a move from their current school. We would love to show more families around the school. Thank you for promoting our/your school. Anyone wanting a visit can simply call or email to school office to arrange this.

LEARNING AND
FLOURISHING
TOGETHER



Primary & Pre-School places available.

Your local school that ensures strong moral values run through the whole school and all of the children are given every opportunity to achieve their potential and feel proud of themselves in a caring Christian environment.

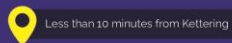
Respect - Friendship - Responsibility - Truth - Resilience - Hope

- Small Village School
- Wrap-around-care
- Pre-School provision
- Caring environment



Call us for your one-to-one tour

01536 790 506



High Street, Pytchley, Kettering, NN14 1EN

www.pytchleyprimary.org.uk



Safeguarding - It's everyone's responsibility.



Please familiarise yourself with the safeguarding team at Pytchley CoFE.

The safeguarding of our children is something we place huge importance upon. From attending school daily to the care and wellbeing for all children, we would expect that you do too. We ask that you are always vigilant and share with us any worries or concerns that you may have about your own child or another child or parent for example. If you do ever have a concern, you can contact a member of the safeguarding team and your concern will always be dealt with confidence.

Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

Mr Scott head@pytchley.pdet.org.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

Mrs Litchfield t.litchfield@pytchley.pdet.org.uk

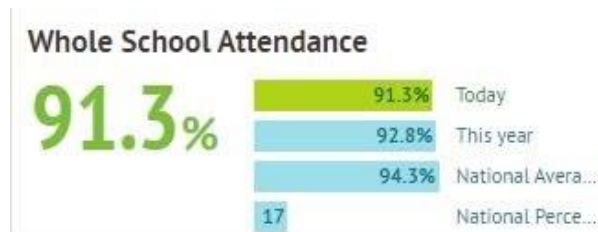
Mrs Ellingworth j.ellingworth@pytcheley.pdet.org.uk

Alternatively, you can contact MASH on 0300 126 7000. For urgent matters out of hours please call: 01604 626938. Further information can be found via the safeguarding tab within the school website.

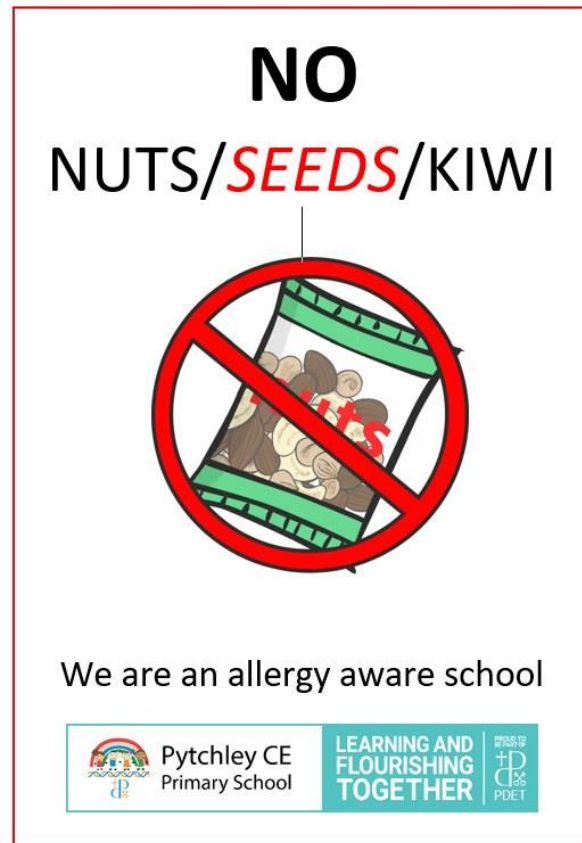


As you know from previous communications, **attendance** continues to be an area of great focus from the Government, Trust and schools. At the time of writing, the whole school attendance was 91%. Throughout the last two weeks, attendance has risen to 95% also. Please communicate with us with regards to attendance. At the end of the term, letters will again be sent out to parents/carers of children whose attendance is a cause for concern. Thank you as always for your understanding and support.

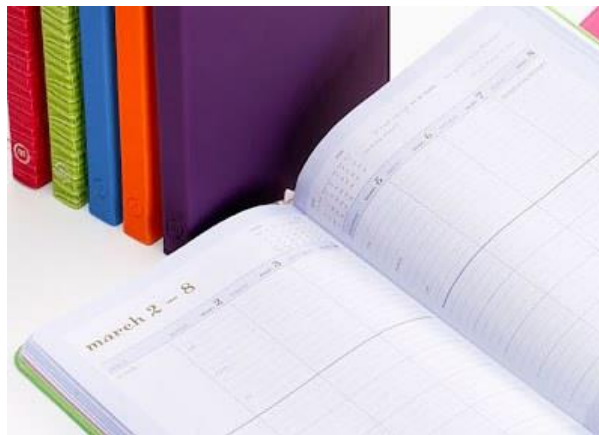
It is good that **lateness** has improved this term. With the gate being open until 9:00 there is no excuse to be late more often than not. 15 minutes lateness a day adds up to over 60minutes of lost learning each week. The younger children for example, miss important phonics learning at this time. As well as attendance, lateness could well be challenged if it becomes a cause for concern.



Pytchley CofE is very much an **Allergy Aware** school. We have a small number of children who have severe allergies and as a result have a blanket **NO to nuts and kiwi!** We have now also added **SEEDS**. Please do ensure that no snack bars for example, are brought into school that may contain seeds of any kinds. Thank you for supporting the care and well-being of our staff and children.



Class News/Termly Planners



How do you know what your child will be learning throughout the year? You will have received class news and termly overviews that give you this info. You can also find these documents on the school website via these links below. The termly overviews allow you to add to learning at home. You might want to visit a museum or find a book in the library that is linked to learning for example. You can also use these documents to quiz your children on their knowledge and understanding.

[Year Group Overviews/Class News](#)

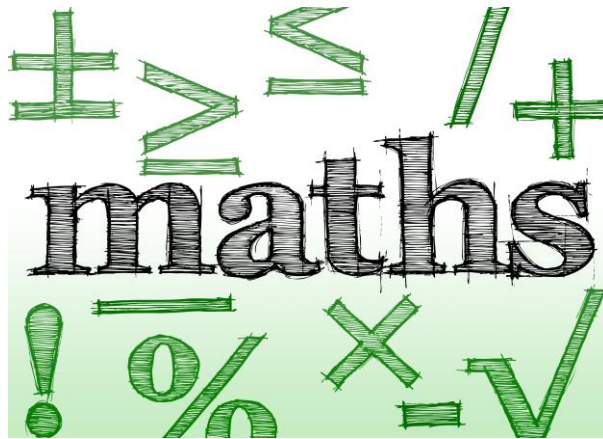
[Duckings](#)

[Robbins](#)

[Merlins](#)

[Kites](#)

Maths - KIRFS



KIRFS are a way of helping your child to learn by heart, key facts and information which they need to have instant recall of.

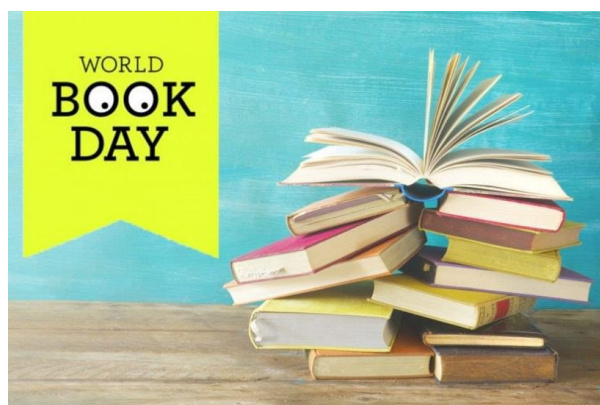
KIRFS are designed to support the development of mental maths skills that underpin much of the maths work in our school. They contain number facts such as number bonds and times tables that need constant practise and rehearsal, so children can recall them quickly and accurately. For your child to become more efficient in recalling them easily, they need to be practised frequently and for short periods of time.

Each half term, children will focus on a Key Instant Recall Fact (KIRF) to practise both in school and learn at home for the half term. You can use the **KIRFS** at home each term also. They give you an idea of what your children should know and understand and when! Don't worry if your child doesn't have a secure understanding as all children learn at different speeds etc.

Please **DO** make use of these resources as they will certainly help your children t make better progress. Follow the link below to find out more and to access each **KIRF** for each year group/term.

[Progression Document & KIRFS](#)

World Book Day



A huge thank you to everyone who made our own world book day a special one this year. Children looked great in many different outfits from crayons to witches etc. Staff enjoyed reading some of their favourite books to the children too from Roald Dahl to Dr Seuss. A massive thank you to parents/carers who donated a book from our amazon wish list. The children enjoyed adding their names to the special stickers. Mrs Litchfield told the children how they had now created a legacy and provided books for children to read for many years. If you would still like to make a donation, please do so via this link - [wishlist](#)

As you can see in the pictures and on social media. We have taken delivery of some new 'Bubblegum' range of library furniture. We now need to work hard to stock the shelves with books that would be pride of place at a Waterstones. We will also be adding dictionaries, thesaurus and non-fiction books. There will be comics and picture books also. Any donations of brand new books via the wish list would be very appreciated.









Values Passports

As you know, the children recently took home with them, a brand new Vision and Values passport. We also provided a letter that told you all more about these. Please see that information below also. We hope that the passport will be used at home to encourage pupils and their families to be able to join in with our ethos and earn special badges. Whenever a child displays a value at home (This term Truth) they are to ask an adult to sign and comment in their passports. Children then need to bring in their passport for an adult stamp/signature. Who will be the first child to receive a special badge this term. Don't worry, if children do not complete all of the sections of the truth part. They can still continue to earn that badge next term and beyond.

If the children lose their passport they will need to simply ask for another! Please do get involved and show the Pytchley values outside of school.

Lessons will be held during the school day as before and will be held over 5 weeks beginning on the week commencing 26th February 2024.

Lessons over the term will consist of 5 weeks of 10 minute 1:1 or 20 minute 2:1 sessions and will cost £5.95 per session, payable in advance for the whole 5 weeks, £29.75 in total.

You can sign-up for lessons using the link below -

<https://forms.gle/Q2jnJgG6sxauufpP6>

If you have any questions or need assistance don't hesitate to contact Jamie at jamie@ismacademy.co.uk."



*****ISM Easter Holiday Club! based at ISM Studios in Kettering*****

We're excited to announce that we'll be holding two separate holiday clubs on the 2nd April!

We've got a singing workshop with Cecilia and a musical fun day with Jason and Joe, both here at ISM!

You can sign-up via the link below or using the QR code on the poster. Upon signing up you'll be prompted to choose which session you'd like.

<https://forms.gle/wrktccPF8ExBj1jM6>

The sessions run from 9am to 3pm and cost £24.

We can't wait to see you all there!

HOLIDAY CLUB!
TUESDAY 2ND APRIL
TWO SEPARATE SESSIONS ON THE SAME DAY!
MUSIC FUN WITH JASON + JOE
OR
SINGING / PERFORMANCE WITH CECILIA
£24 FOR THE DAY - 9AM TO 3PM

TSM Academy
www.tsmacademy.co.uk
01536 521606 TSMUSICACADEMY@GMAIL.COM

SIGN UP HERE

Year 4 - PDET BIG SING



A reminder that, on **Weds 26th June**, the year 4 children from all 33 schools within the trust will be performing at the Dergate in Northampton. Each school will be learning various songs/parts of songs in readiness for this exciting event. Parents and carers will be able to purchase tickets directly

from the box office. This event will be popular so do look out for ticket information. We cant wait to get started and to get singing!

TTRS - 144

X	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	0	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	0	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	0	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	0	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

How can you support your child at home?

Encourage children to play Times table Rockstars as often as possible - children should be doing a minimum of 20 minutes on this a week at home.

Quiz your child at home regularly. This could be when making dinner or on the journey to school.

Display a poster with all of the times tables facts on at home.

We teach the children fun tricks at school such as the 9 times table finger trick. If you know this, you can practise it with them at home.

Create flash cards with your children and let them play with friends, siblings, grandparents. They could write the answer on the back and test themselves.

We use lots of songs to teach our times tables in school. Children can recognise these from you tube by typing in 4 times table song etc. Let them sing along with those at home.

Chanting their times table is an excellent way to learn them. They could do this each time they walk up the stairs.

Any times tables practise that the children can do at home will really support them to become proficient in their times tables and help them with their everyday maths learning.

Times tables are fundamental to support children and under pin everything within Maths. It is vital that all children know their multiplication facts up to 12 x 12.

Knowing the multiplication facts up to 12x 12 will give them the essential knowledge needed to be proficient with the Years 5 and 6 Curriculum.

The Year 4 multiplication check

For more information on this please see the attached link

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6543c1ef9e05fd0014be7c64/2024_Information_for_parents_Multiplication_tables_check_PDFA_v1.1.pdf

The termly average thus far for each year group on TTRS is:

Y1 - 100%

Y2 - 88%

Y3 - 100%

Y4 - 92%

Y5 - 100%

Y6 - 100%

The average daily time for all year groups is just 2mins (Y4 3 mins) This can improve and the impact will be massive on maths learning across the school.

We now have 24 members of the 144 club. Quickest time is Willow and Mrs E - 2mins 19 secs!

PE Update

This week, the children and staff loved their sports afternoon with Ash Randall. If you haven't yet seen him - check out these videos and be dazzled with his

<https://www.youtube.com/@AshFreestyle/featured>

https://youtu.be/EZP_uVer3MY?si=Pf4II7HxAsXNPA3N

The children and staff were able to join in too and show off their own skills. Check out them doing that in the pictures below. Each term, we aim to utilise the Government Sports Funding to provide similar sports sessions and introductions to new sports and skills. So far this has been hockey, football skills. What will it be next? Watch this space.

In celebration worship this week, some KS2 children were awarded with their Bike-Ability certificates and badges. They listened well and were steady on their bicycles. Check out these pictures. We look forward to offering more cycle awareness in the future.

























I hope you are well. I am writing on behalf of Isham Cricket Club and manage communications for our club. We are a family friendly social Cricket Club located between the villages of Orlingbury and Isham. Here is our website in case you would like to read about us in detail : ishamcc.co.uk would like to invite children from your school, across all ages and genders, to try the sport, participate and be part of our club. And for a start, whether they are new to the sport or have some experience, they could try out our free coaching sessions on the 3rd March, 10th March and 17th March (between 1:30 - 3:00pm). We have our own Northampton Cricket County certified Cricket coaches with a lot of experience in offering Cricket coaching to children who are new to the sport and also those with some experience. Our coaches are our own club members and volunteers who are duly DBS / Safeguarding verified. We also have our safe guarding officer (details on our website). I would therefore request you to pass this message to parents who may wish to consider their child/children (across all ages/gender) taking up the sport. If you would require any more details, please feel free to get in touch.

My best regards,

Nithya Rajendrababu,

Isham Cricket Club



Online Safety

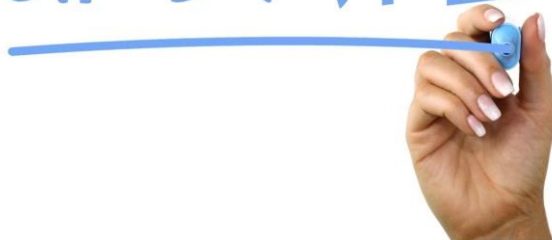


At Pytchley C of E, Online safety is of great importance to us. Please do take the time to read the latest guide from the National Online Safety for parents and carers all about acts of kindness online. We will aim to provide regular online safety notices. In this day and age it is so important that we are keeping our children safe on line so that they can become strong digital citizens. In school, all children have their own passwords to access the IT. Our firewall is also very strong. Is yours at home?



Parent Governor Vacancy - Apply Soon (By 14th March)

UPDATE



I am writing to inform you that we will be electing a new parent governor to join our Academy Governance Committee of our school. Parent governors are very valuable members of the Committee; we rely on them to help us keep in touch with what parents are thinking. Our school is part of Peterborough Diocese Education Trust (PDET) and the Academy Governance Committee (AGC) is a committee of the Trust's board of Directors. The Directors have delegated to the AGC a range of duties/responsibilities. These are outlined in the document called 'The Role of the AGC' which can be found on the PDET website – www.pdet.org.uk

In your role as a governor, you will be supported in your duties by other experienced members of the AGC, the Headteacher, the PDET's Central Team and the Clerk to governors.

All governors need:

- Commitment to improving education for all pupils;
- Commitment to supporting the Christian ethos of the Trust and the Academy
- Ability to work in a team and take collective responsibility for decisions;
- Willingness to learn;
- To have read PDET's Privacy Notice for Volunteers (a copy of which is attached).

Desirable skills/experience required:

- Experience of a previous similar role in education/business
- Up to date knowledge of the education landscape (Inc attendance)
- Knowledge of staff/pupil well-being and their safeguarding
- Experience in own line of work re: health & safety

The level of commitment required is:

- Attendance at all 6 AGC meetings per year on a weekday evening for approx 2 hours each;
- Attendance at training as required;
- Undertaking structured monitoring visits to the school – at least one per term;
- Working outside of meetings reviewing policies and other documents and/or on task and finish groups.

Anyone who has parental responsibility for a pupil on the school roll at the time of the election can stand for election and can vote in the election. Our school is totally committed to safeguarding children and so the successful applicant will require a DBS check prior to taking up the appointment. For more information, please contact Mr David Sharman (Interim Chair of Governors) via the school office: office@pytchley.pdet.org.uk

Parent governors play a vital role in the governance of the Academy, bringing parent viewpoints and insights to the AGC in the interests of the Academy as a whole. If you are satisfied that you meet the criteria, are eligible to become a governor and wish to apply for this role, please complete a nomination and declaration form. Please include a personal statement of relevant experience and why you would like to become a governor. This statement will be circulated to all parents in the event an election is required. The nomination and declaration form is attached. An electronic version can also be downloaded from the school website at www.pytchleyprimary.org.uk

The timeline of the process is as follows:

- 1. All nominations and declarations to arrive in the school office by 10.00am on 14th March 2024**
- 2. All nominations pre-screened against criteria and experience/skills required**
- 3. Ballot papers sent out on 19th March**
- 4. Voting closes at 10.00am on 26th March**
- 5. Successful applicant informed**

Ballot forms will be sent home with the children so please check in book bags etc nearer to the time. Each parent will have one vote per this vacancy regardless of the number of children you have in the school. The ballot is secret; you can send or post the ballot papers back in a sealed envelope or drop it into the ballot box in the school foyer/office.

We are also seeking a Church (Foundation) Governor. There is a different process involved with this role so please contact Mr Scott for more information head@pytchley.pdet.org.uk

Term Dates



Academic Year 2023/2024

Term 4 Tuesday 27th February 2024 - Thursday 28th March 2024

Term 5 Monday 15th April 2024 - Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6 Monday 3rd June - Tuesday 23rd July 2024

INSET Days

Monday 26th February 2024

School Uniform



We request that school uniform is worn by all pupils, as we feel this develops pupils' sense of belonging to the school community. Thank you for your support. To help with PE uniform, ALL children will soon be provided with a blue PE T-Shirt AND a House Team T-Shirt. Either can be worn for PE or events outside of school. Having provided these FOC, we expect ALL children to have appropriate PE kit including shorts and bottoms (Leggings/joggers etc).

Will write again soon.....

